

S/N 10/613,764

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SOLHEID ET AL.

Examiner: J. NASRI

Serial No.: 10/613,764

Group Art Unit: 2839

Filed: JULY 2, 2003

Docket No.: 2316.1785US01

Title: TELECOMMUNICATIONS CONNECTION CABINET

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on December 13, 2006.

By: 

Name: Anne Lee

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 or a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

Exhibit A includes drawings showing a fiber storage trough concept that was disclosed to a distributor and a potential customer in June of 2002. Pricing information was quoted to the potential customer. For the purpose of examining this patent application, Applicants request the Examiner to consider the fiber storage trough system disclosed at Exhibit A as prior art.

The fiber storage trough concept of Exhibit A includes a trough adapted to be mounted to a telecommunications rack. The trough has open left and right ends and a front panel that can be pivoted open. Clips are mounted to the floor of the trough. The clips have top portions with a

flexible hinge that allows the clips to be opened so that groups of fiber optic cables can be inserted downwardly into the clips for the purposes of cable management. The clips have through-holes that face toward the left and right ends. The system also includes a plurality of adapter packs mounted near the right end of the trough. The adapter packs have the same type of configuration as the adapter packs disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,497,444. The adapter packs are not configured to receive a connector with the dust cap on. Instead, a dust cap covering a ferrule of a connector is required to be removed from the ferrule before the connector can be inserted into an adapter of the adapter pack. The adapter packs are adapted to hold the connectors of the cables while the cables are stored within the trough. In use, the connectors would be inserted into the adapters of the adapter pack by moving the connectors in a left-to-right direction.

Exhibit B includes drawings relating to a fiber storage trough concept that was disclosed to a distributor and a potential customer in April 2002. Pricing information was quoted to the distributor and the customer, and it appears that the distributor purchased a few of the devices. For the purpose of examining the present application, the Examiner is requested to consider the fiber storage trough system disclosed at Exhibit B as prior art.

The fiber optic cable storage system of Exhibit B has a trough adapted to be mounted to a telecommunications rack. The trough has open left and right ends for receiving cables, and has a front cover that can be opened to access the interior of the trough. A plurality of cable management clips are mounted to the floor of the trough. The clips have top ends that can be flexed open to allow cables to be inserted downwardly into the clips. In use, the clips manage the cables, and the connectorized ends of the cables lie loosely within the trough. The photos included with Exhibit B show the trough being used to store optical fibers within a rack.

Exhibit C shows a prior art clip for holding a fiber optic adapter within a panel opening. The clip has a latch and tab arrangement for holding the clip within the panel opening.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

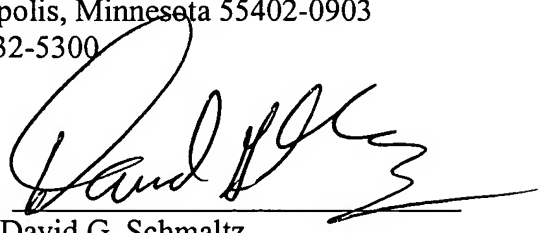
Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.



Dated: December 13, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Signed: 
Name: David G. Schmaltz
Reg. No.: 39,828
DGS:JKS:PLSkaw

FORM 1449* INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 2316.1785US01	Application Number: 10/613,764
	Applicant: SOLHEID ET AL.	
	Filing Date: 07/02/2003	Group Art Unit: 2839

[illegible]

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	